

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9564

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 8877

FOR AF/W

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC SHUM NI (LEFEVRE, LOUIS)

SUBJECT: CASE OF LOUIS LEFEVRE

REF: A) LAGOS 8713; B) STATE 178212; C) LAGOS 8459

1. MAGISTRATE'S COURT MET ON JULY 17 WITH ROTIMI WILLIAMS
REPERESNTED BY HIS ASSOCIATE BAYO KEHINDE AND PROSECUTION BY
ASST SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE SAMUEL OSHORUN. MAGISTRATE NOTED
ABSENCE OF WAZIRI AND LEFEVRE WHICH KEHINDE EXPLAINED BY REFERRING
TO DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTION'S LETTER TO ROTIMI WILLIAMS
AND POSTSCRIPT BY ROTIMI WILLIAMS TO WAZIRI AND WAZIRI'S
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT PRESENCE OF LEFEVRE NOT REQUIRED.

2. OSHORUN OBJECTED THAT APPROVAL OF COURT FOR LEFEVRE'S ABSENCE
HAD NOT BEEN OBTAINED AND APPLIED FOR BENCH WARRANT. EGBE WAS
ASKED TO COMMENT AND MADE USUAL STATEMENT OF POLICE PERSECUTION.
HE PRESENTED TWO LETTERS TO MAGISTRATE WHICH THE MAGISTRATE DID
NOT READ. ONE WAS FROM AIIC NIGERIA IN WHICH EGBE CLAIMED AIIC
NOTED THAT THEY WERE NOT COMPLAINANTS IN CASE AND HAD NOT LOST
A KOBO.

3. AT THIS POINT, WAZIRI APPEARED AND ANNOUNCED HE WOULD
REPRESENT THE PROSECUTION. THE MAGISTRATE ASKED HIM IF HE WISHED
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TO CONTINUE APPLICATION FOR BENCH WARRANT MADE BY OSHORUN.
WAZIRI REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE, REFERRING TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
ROTIMI WILLIAMS AND THE DPP.

4. EGBE AGAIN DEMANDED RETURN OF HIS PASSPORT AND N10,000, BUT
MAGISTRATE SAID IT OUT OFDHIS JURISDICTION. MAGISTRATE ADJOURNED
CASE UNTIL AUG 11, 1978.

5. WITH REGARD TO REFTEL B, INSPECTOR GENERAL YUSUF SHOWED VERY CLEARLY IN HIS MOST RECENT CONVERSATION WITH ME (REFTEL C) THAT HE DOES NOT WISH TO CONTINUE DISCUSSING THIS CASE WITH ME. THIS MAY BE BECAUSE HE IS NOT SATISFIED OF EGBE'S INNOCENCE AND THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISMISS THE CHARGE AGAINST LEFEVRE WITHOUT DISMISSING THE CHARGE AGAINST EGBE. IN ANY CASE I AM CONVINCED IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR ME TO PRESS YUSUF FURTHER AT THIS POINT. WE THINK IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR WILLIAMS TO WORK OUT WITH WAZIRI, PRIOR TO AUGUST 11, AN ARRANGMENT SIMILAR TO THAT CARRIED OUT PRIOR TO THE JULY 17 ACTION. UNDER SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING LEFEVRE WOULD NOT HAVE TO RETURN FOR THE AUGUST 11 HEARING IF THE PROSECUTION PLANNED TO PROPOSE EITHER DISMISSAL OF THE CHARGES OR STILL ANOTHER ADJOURNMENT.
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Message Attributes

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